



# PEPtalk

QUARTERLY NEWS FROM EVERETT J. PRESCOTT, INC. | Winter 2018 | Volume 49

## With our appreciation at the holidays:



Peter E. Prescott, CEO  
59 Years  
Team EJP

Team EJP would like to thank each and every one of you who have been so great to our company. We are continuing to expand our personnel, equipment, inventory, Know H<sub>2</sub>Ow<sup>®</sup> Seminars, VAS Customers, University of Prescott, and innovative technologies in the industry. Let us personally thank you for allowing our team to service you now and in the future.



Steven E. Prescott,  
President  
28 Years  
Team EJP

When approaching the holiday season, everyone here at Team EJP reflects on those who have made our success possible. Thank you for continuing to support us.



Stanley G. McCurdy, COO  
57 Years  
Team EJP

Reflecting on the year gone by, it has been wonderful associating with all of you. Hoping for more cherished times, best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with peace and prosperity. All Team EJP locations will be closed December 24, December 25, and January 1. In the case of an emergency, please call 1-800-EJP-24HR.





## Should You be Concerned About Main Breaks? Check Out This Study!



The Utah State University's Buried Structures Library has recently published a comprehensive study on the rate of breakage in water mains. The conclusions were rather alarming and may point to issues in water main breakage rates including an increase of 40% over the past six years. Here's a quick overview:

The study is a secondary report following Dr. Steven Folkman's 2012 report. The new report surveyed a total of 200,000 miles of installed water mains across 300 water utilities, representing a strong increase in data over the 2012 report and recording 23,803 pipe failures. It's one of the

largest studies conducted on water main breakage, providing us with a glimpse into the condition that your water lines are in, making repair and replacement decision-making much easier for water utilities.

But what does the report have to say? Since the first report, breakage rates have increased by 27%, representing an alarming increase. On average, 0.8% of installed water mains are replaced across the country every year, the equivalent of a 125-year pipe replacement schedule. To keep up with anticipated 60-year replacement schedules, this rate needs to double.

It also found that 85% of water mains are under 12" in diameter. The percentage of water mains over 50 years old from 22% to 26% since the first report was presented, but the water mains that are past their useful lifespan has doubled, going from 8% to 16%, increasing the risk of breakage. On a positive note, the study also noted an 8 PSI decrease in average water supply pressure to 69 PSI, significantly below most water main operating pressure maximums, which helped conserve water, extend the pipe lifespan, and reduce the risk of leaks and breaks.

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## Water Main Break at Bridge Crossing in Bradford, VT

On September 26 - 28, EJP Service Technician Patrick Coughlin and University of Prescott Student Kyle Flaherty responded to a service call to repair a broken piece of 8" ductile iron pipe that stretched across a bridge located in Bradford, VT.

The pipe apparently froze in mid-January, splitting a few of MJ fittings and the complementing restraining glands that were connecting the pipe across the bridge. In order to reach the damaged glands, insulation around the pipe first needed to be removed. After doing so, Patrick and Kyle then disassembled each MJ fitting and restraining gland on the pipe and replaced them with new parts. To make the job go both faster and easier, an ALPHA Coupling was used to tie in the ends of the pipe. Once the line was repaired, the air in the pipe was bled from the line to, once again, make it fully operational.

If you experience a water break or need emergency service, don't hesitate to call your local Waterworks Specialists at Team EJP.



*EJP Service Technician Patrick Coughlan is seen here installing a gasket on a piece of ductile iron pipe.*



## MWWA Summer Expo and Clambake



On August 24, one of the nicest days in 2018, the Annual MWWA (Massachusetts Water Works Association) Clambake was held at the stunning Wachusett Mountain Ski Resort in Princeton, MA. As always, the event was jam-packed with people from the waterworks industry gathering around for fun in the sun. Some of the most popular games

held within the event were can-jam, corn hole, and the celebrated meter toss, where participants throw a bronze meter as far as they can to record the longest distance. Team EJP is honored to be a part of this wonderful yearly event and hopes to see everyone again next year!

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## Unexpected Benefits of VAS Partnerships



Springfield Water District is Team EJP Vermont's longest running VAS partner. In mid-August, Springfield Water's year-end VAS inventory was completed, providing them with up-to-date reports for their auditors.

A few weeks later, the employees of the Water Department found that their storage facility was broken into and a significant amount of their service brass was missing. Chris Rogers with Team EJP was asked if he could do a count on the brass to check what was missing. On Friday, September 7, Team EJP conducted a complete inventory check on their service brass and found \$3,356.29 worth had been stolen. Fortunately, later that same day, a box of brass was recovered just off site in the woods, worth \$1,311.76, leaving the Department with a total loss of \$2,044.53.

Because Springfield, VT is a VAS partner and has their inventory maintained and accounted for with the assistance of Team EJP, the quantities and cost of every piece of missing inventory were quickly and accurately determined. This provided an accurate document to both the Police Department and insurance company to aid in the investigation.

Contact your local EJP Sales Representative to see if a VAS partnership is the right fit for your inventory!



Chief Operator for Springfield Water VT, Roy Farrar



## Zinc Coated Ductile Iron Pipe: a Solution to Improve Waterline Longevity in Corrosive Soils

In January of 2018 Patoka Lake Regional Water and Sewer (Patoka LRWS) Operations Manager, Shawn Kluesner, spoke with EJP Marketing Representative, Scot Osborn, in regard to finding a better solution for the highly corrosive soils in the Patoka Region of Indiana. The soil in Patoka is comparable to the soil at the DIPRA (Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association) test facility at the Everglades National Park in Florida, where it is considered to have the most corrosive soils in the United States.

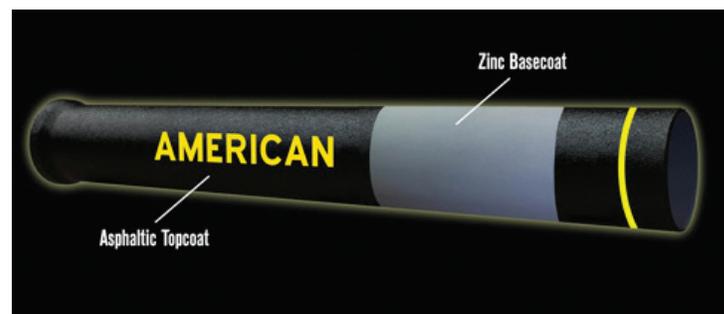
Patoka LRWS needed to install 7,800' of class 250 ductile iron pipe. Scot was aware of the corrosion issues the area had experienced in the past, and that future work would require close attention.



*V-Bio poly-wrap on the American Zinc Pipe seen here is added protection to help improve the longevity of the pipe in highly corrosive soils.*

Scot and American Ductile Iron Pipe Company decided that Zinc Coated Ductile Iron Pipe would be the best solution for these challenges. Instead of spending money on the increased wall thickness of Standard Asphaltic Coated Class 350 Ductile Iron Pipe, investing their funds instead into a zinc coating would allow them to use the desired Class 250 ductile iron pipe. To further increase the longevity of the water system, items such as V-Bio poly-wrap, zinc coated fittings from SIP, restraints with blue bolts, and anode nut caps were added into the mix. All of this material working together would effectively deal with the challenging conditions.

The City of Patoka followed Scot's recommendation. This affordable solution mitigates the issues associated with installing pipe in highly corrosive soils, increasing the longevity of the water system. Patoka LRWS has since made zinc coated ductile, v-bio poly wrap, zinc coated fittings, blue T bolts, and anode nuts a regular practice for ductile iron projects moving forward.



***“We are excited to announce that we have installed corrosion resistant products that will improve the longevity of our water system for years to come.”***

***Shawn Kluesner, Patoka LRWS Operations Manager***



## Team EJP Provides Waterline Chlorination and Dechlorination Service for McGee Construction

Ensuring safe drinking water is one of the most important duties of the waterworks industry. On August 23 and 24, Team EJP was on the job site for McGee Construction on Riverside Drive in Augusta, Maine, to chlorinate and dechlorinate new water lines being constructed for a new gas station. The two lines that needed to be flushed were 6" and 2" connected water lines.

Before the water in the new main is considered drinkable, it first needs to be chlorinated. The way this is done is to pump 12.5% chlorine into the pipe starting at the beginning of the main while releasing water from the end of the run, then wait until the end of the run tests at 50 parts per million. The chlorine needs to saturate in the line



*"The de-chlorination process is an environmentally friendly solution to dispose of excess high chlorine content that you have to blow out of a chlorinated water main."*

*EJP Service Technician, Kolby Peckham*



for 24 hours in order to allow the chlorine to do its job of eating harmful bacteria in the pipe to make it safe before draining it. Once the chlorination process is complete, some towns prefer to dechlorinate the line as an environmentally friendly practice. This made perfect sense for McGee Construction and the City of Augusta, ME, since the job site was in close proximity to the Kennebec River.

The dechlorination process requires the use of sodium thiosulfate tablets. At each drain location, the water is run through a gabion barrel containing the proper amount of sodium thiosulfate from the tablets for the dechlorination process to

initiate. The active chlorine ions are bound to sodium, resulting in a much more stable molecule; NaCl, otherwise known as table salt.

Once the water is filtered through the barrel containing sodium thiosulfate, it is spilled out the back until the entire line is flushed. To be considered successfully chlorinated, water samples must be submitted to the State of Maine, who confirms that the line reached 50 parts per million for 2 hours. As expected, the results in this project did confirm the line successfully reached 50 parts per million for 2 hours on both 2" and 6" pipe runs.

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## WATER CONSERVATION CORNER

### DID YOU KNOW?



National studies indicate that, on average, 14 percent of the water treated by water systems is lost to leaks. Some water systems have reported water losses exceeding 60 percent. Accounting for water and minimizing water loss are critical functions for any water utility that wants to be sustainable.

Sustainable Water Infrastructure. (n.d.) Retrieved from <https://www.epa.gov>



## Team EJP Accepts Sponsor of the Year Award at 2018 NEWWA Annual Conference

The 2018 NEWWA Annual Conference was held from September 16 - 19 at Stowe Mountain Lodge in Stowe, Vermont. 371 water works professionals attended NEWWA's 2018 Annual Conference for educational and networking opportunities. Included in the 2018 program were technical session tracks stretched over 2 days on topics including water treatment, management, sustainability, water resources, water quality, distribution, and groundwater. All who attended a session received valuable TCH credits.



(Left to Right) Chris Hodgson of DN Tanks, Tom Carr, Dan Burdin, Robbi Lockhart of Team EJP and Richard Knowlton of Maine Water Company stand with the 2018 NEWWA Sponsor of the Year Award.



The annual Water For People Silent Auction returned in style at this year's event, as well as the ever-popular "Aging Infrastructure" contest and "New England's Best" Drinking Water Taste Test. Listed below are the winners

- Silent Auction - Steve Sullivan won (2) Nascar Tickets donated by Team EJP.
- Aging Infrastructure Contest - 5 teams participated, TI-SALES was the winner.
- Best Drinking Water Challenge - Dracut Water Supply District was this year's winner and will compete at AWWA ACE19 in Denver, representing New England.

## Tap Water is a Bargain!

As water professionals, it is important for us to remember that water utilities deliver clean, safe water into your home, every minute of every day. Water for drinking, cooking, bathing, gardening, and even for putting out fires. Could you afford to do that with bottled water? Water supply and wastewater treatment are two of the most valuable services that the public receive and they are provided at truly economical rates!

Team EJP is above the rest when it comes to training in the water works industry. We provide presentations for water association conferences, engineering firms, contractor groups, and other groups involved with water. These presentations often carry professional development hours for water and wastewater operators, contractors, engineers, and landscape architects. Important topics include: safety, operations, erosion control systems and practices, and modern water metering systems. Let us know if we can help your group's next gathering.



EJP Metering Specialist, Chris Goodrich, shows this graphic in presentations at water industry gatherings. Pointing out that when you buy a case of bottled water at the "bargain" price of \$4.99 per case, it translates into a price of \$1,574.13 per thousand gallons! Then the question thereafter is "Does your utility charge more than \$1,500 for a thousand gallons of water?"



## Say Goodbye to the Gravity-Fed Fire Hydrant



The following is a courtesy of the Bayside Maine Association (Northport Village Corporation), who was on the job with Team EJP Service Technician, Dave Robinson and Marketing Representative Skylar McMillan, on October 7, 2018: The photos seen here were photographed by John Spritz in Northport, ME, and named “Gravity Gives Way to Pressure” to describe the nature of the project. The project involved the replacement of an existing gravity-fed fire hydrant whose water was received from an uphill pond with a new hydrant that

is fed by a pressurized line coming from Belfast, ME. “Say goodbye to the gravity-fed fire hydrant”, has stood at the corner of Griffin and Broadway for decades. Monday, it was drained and removed; Now its duties are more capably assumed by the water system-fed hydrant across the street. A new hydrant near Merithew Square located nearby was also added. Insurance companies might look favorably on this work from a premium perspective!

## Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands Honors Team EJP with Master Logger Supporter Award



BREWSTER, ME.—The Trust to Conserve Northeast Forestlands and the Northeast Logger Certification Program honored Team EJP with their Master Logger Supporter’s Award at its annual meeting held on May 4, 2018.

The recognition was in appreciation of Team EJP’s work assisting with the planning and execution of road building workshops for the organization in both Maine and New York. Recently, Team EJP has assisted with similar events with logging associations in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Connecticut.

The program planning began with a call from Northeast Master Logger Program Director Ted Wright to Team EJP’s Pete Hanrahan. That call resulted in a 2016 event in Lincoln, Maine, followed in 2017 by others in Tupper Lake, New York, and Augusta, Maine. Jay Peavey, Office Manager at Team EJP’s Bangor, Maine location, attended the May 4 event and accepted the award on behalf of the company.



*Trust To Conserve Northeast Forestlands Executive Director, Ted Wright, presents the Master Logger Supporter’s award to EJP Bangor Office Manager Jay Peavey.*



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